

watch
this
space:

In a tumultuous year full of budget cuts, one student athlete reflects on their time at UNK.

Get a peek inside the new weight room in the Health and Wellness Center

They came, they learned, they left their mark. Learn more about the seniors that are saying farewell to UNK

the antelope

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University of Nebraska at Kearney

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IN THE SHADOWS

DACA didn't protect immigrants; program protected human beings



"Their dreams, the hard, dirty work our parents went through, all wasted."

DREAMer opens up about ending of DACA

BRETT WESTFALL
Antelope Staff

Imagine a familiar, middle class family, such as most in the state of Nebraska, all sitting around after dinner and watching the television. The only difference is their constant fear because of their legal status. This is a family of immigrants.

Suddenly, news interrupts the peaceful evening of the family watching the television, and they find out that they could be separated by being sent to a different country with no home, no job, no money and no life. Many DACA recipients feel as if the apocalypse has begun.

To understand the workings and the exhausting effects that the cancellation of the administrative program has caused, a brave student agreed to speak about how hard the times have been following the imposed DACA end date.

The student wanted to remain anonymous to keep an identity secret following recent racist remarks.

Before turning one, Camila's parents needed a better life for their daughter. Everywhere around them, crimes and political unrest were troubling. They looked north, to a bright and beautifully prosperous country, the USA.

Before leaving Mexico, Camila's dad applied and was approved for a work visa. Making the sacrifice, he pushed himself, working his tail off for over a year in the West Coast.

With work Visas and more to be allowed to stay in America, it was hard for Camila's parents to find time to become full citizens. Working, often seven days a week, and taking care of kids was no easy task, especially when the family felt they needed to hide that they were living in this country without full legal permission.

For years, Camila and her family have lived in Nebraska, busting their tails, working and trying to save up to become full citizens one day. The family didn't think they would be able to pay for Camila to go to a university; instead, they chose a community college.

Camila said her parents have proven so much already, but there was still more to be done for them. She decided to go a step higher and attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She wanted to prove their effort wouldn't just be for a mediocre life but one that is filled with hard work and bravery.

"Applying and getting accepted was the easy part," she said. "The hardest part was finding the money and applying for tons of scholarships that I would even be able to receive."

Without "legal status" as a U.S. citizen, and listed as "temporary resident" she is ineligible for the majority of all scholarships.

After months of applying with little success, the only option her parents could find was a hefty loan for thousands of dollars. The only way they could get a loan was for Camila to list herself as an international student, which she technically is.

Camila finally lucked out in her second semester of freshman year after becoming exhaustingly active in joining organizations on campus; she found her

CAMILA, PAGE 4

Ending

DACA

June 15, 2012

DACA signed by President Obama

Sept 5, 2017

DACA rescinded by President Trump

Jan. 9, 2018

District judge Alsup ruled to renew DACA

Jan. 16, 2018

DOJ filed an appeal

Feb. 13, 2018

Judge Garaufis issued preliminary injunction that administration cannot stop program

Feb. 26, 2018

SCOTUS declined to review ruling until heard by an appeals court

March 5, 2018

Deadline passed to include DACA in spending bill

March 23, 2018

Renewed deadline for spending bill, which passed without protection for DACA recipients

Thousands of DACA recipients continue to lose status:

13,900 in March


5,320 in April

14,000 in May

Graphic by Alana Kellen, Haley Pierce, Jessica Turek,

>>> **ONLINE**
@unkantelope.com

Valencia finds HSA all-consuming



"My parents, they gave up everything to come here to give me a better life. Without knowing a word of English, they dove out into 'nothingness.'"

- Gustavo Valencia

Burd prepares for life after college

Future elementary teacher looks back on college experience

SHELBY LARSEN
Antelope Staff

Emily Burd, a senior from Lincoln, had no problem choosing her major. She can't remember a time when she didn't want to be a teacher.

Her choice to pursue an early childhood inclusive bachelor of arts in education was easily made after working at a child development center for several years, starting at the age of 15.

Currently, Burd is student teaching first grade at Meadowlark Elementary in Kearney. "I love building relationships with my students by getting to know them. I truly care about each and every one of them, and it is really rewarding to see them grow academically throughout the semester."

While Burd has enjoyed the student teaching experience, she has also realized just how exhausting teaching can be. "There really is a lot that teachers have to do to remain organized and prepared for the following week. I go to bed a lot earlier than I used to."

The 2014 Lincoln Southwest graduate will graduate this May and advises other



Courtesy.

Senior Emily Burd found her love for yoga in May of 2017. She started a 90-day YouTube challenge and has done yoga every day since. She uses it as a tool for stress-management and to keep a healthy mind and body, which is extremely important, especially during college.

students that might student teach in the future to be flexible.

"You really have to be willing to do anything that is needed, as you want to present yourself as a valuable member of the team. Making a presence in the school by talking to other teachers and administrators really helps build connections that will come in handy when trying to find a job," said Burd.

Q. Why did you choose UNK?

A. I decided to attend UNK after visiting different schools and seeing how the campuses varied. I liked that UNK had a smaller campus and that the class sizes were smaller. I was also awarded several scholarships to attend UNK, so that was a big deciding factor.

Q. What are your post-graduation plans?

A. I am moving to Omaha where I will hopefully find a full-time teaching job in an elementary school.

Q. What has been your favorite part about college?

A. I love that college provides the freedom to pursue a career in whatever path you choose. It gives you a chance to meet new people and focus on what is important to you.

Q. What has been your least favorite part about college?

A. My least favorite part of college is definitely being broke all the time. I am pretty ready to have a stable financial situation.

Q. Did you have a job during college? If so, how did you find time for classes, homework and a job?

A. Yes, I got a job at the UNK Child Development Center in October of my freshman year and worked with infants there until I started student teaching this spring. It took me a while to learn to

BURD, PAGE 4

Sorority makes difference

Alpha Xi Delta hosts annual Step It Up 5K Run/Walk for Autism Speaks

LINDSEY RUIZ
Antelope Staff

April is the month that elicits both excitement and dread for college students. It's the last month of classes, and you're ready for summer, but it's also the hardest month for most students.

UNK's own Alpha Xi Delta sorority held its annual spring philanthropy event this past Sunday, April 8. Every year in April, Autism Awareness Month, Alpha Xi Delta pairs with Autism Speaks to host an amazing challenge, the Step It Up 5K Run/Walk to raise awareness and funds for families involved in the organization. Since the pairing with the two organizations in 2009, Alpha Xi Delta

chapters all over the United States have raised over six million dollars and that number just keeps growing. Alpha Xi Delta members continue to demonstrate and show commitment to support Autism Speaks by hosting other events nationwide such as Football FrenXi, Xi Man, Puzzlepalooza and so much more.

The annual event is held at the Kearney Archway every year, which offers a perfect outdoor setting for the 5K. Chapter and community members participated in games, musical entertainment and raffle prizes. There were also refreshments. Local businesses donate prizes and food every year to help make the event successful. The Step It

Up 5k would not be successful without community involvement. It's the key to success; any Alpha Xi Delta member will say. Every person involved in the 5K, no matter if they were walking or running, played a huge role in helping families that are affected by autism. Having the passionate support from the community, friends and family means so much to every member.

The chapter philanthropy chair, Beth Revelo, a junior elementary education major from Cozad, is very passionate for the cause. Autism Speaks and philanthropy are two of the reasons she joined Alpha Xi Delta, and she continues to put everything she has into the chapter philanthropy.

This year, the chapter at UNK also participated in Light it Up Blue where chapter members lit up UNK's campus with blue lights and decorations to shed more light on autism, raising more

understanding and acceptance. The main focus for Autism Speaks is finding a cure, but it's also to help all individuals and families on every end of the autism spectrum. No type of autism is too little or too small. Autism Speaks continues to shine and do as much as possible for the autistic communities all around the United States.

Revelo expressed her thanks to all the participants from the surrounding communities and UNK students, faculty and staff. "They are what makes our event so great. Without them, we couldn't have an event. Every year we set a goal, and we do everything we can to make that goal. Our donation may be just a small portion of what Alpha Xi Delta does as a whole, but it is still creating an impact."

Alpha Xi Delta members thank everyone for coming to the event and hope to have an even bigger turnout next April!

What comes next: how students can parlay internships into jobs

With the job market on the upswing, college students can turn past experience into career path

UNK COMMUNICATIONS

The job market appears a bit more promising for soon-to-be college graduates than it has been for most of this decade. Just four years ago, CNN Money reported that 260,000 college grads held minimum-wage jobs. Barely 25 percent had a job related to their college major. But this year, the National Association of Colleges and Employers projects U.S. companies will hire 4 percent more new college graduates than they did from the Class of 2017.

Yet with more optimistic employment prospects, there's still stiff competition for those first "real" jobs. Who stands the best chance of getting them?

Several studies show that college internships make a significant difference. According to Gallup, for example, recent graduates who had an internship in college were more than twice as likely to be hired for a good, career-related job immediately after graduation.

"The solution for college students is to increase job experience while still

in school, and that means obtaining a hands-on internship every summer while in college," says Matthew Stewart, co-founder of College Works Painting (www.collegeworks.com), which provides business experience for thousands of college students each year.

"Unless you graduate college with a significant amount of real-world job experience, finding a job will be incredibly difficult"

Stewart gives college students four tips on maximizing their college internship in order to improve their post-grad job prospects:

- Find an internship that challenges you. An internship experience that will be meaningful on a resume should make demands of the student, Stewart says. Ideally, they're getting a preview of their chosen profession and an idea of the skills they'll need to succeed. "College students should be looking for experiences that will challenge them," Stewart says. "When they get out of school, they will be competing with thousands of other graduates. They need

About Matt Stewart

Matt Stewart is co-founder of College Works Painting (www.collegeworks.com/about), which provides business experience for thousands of college students each year. The program also offers high-quality house-painting services for homeowners. Stewart received the Excellence in Entrepreneurship Award from the Orange County Business Journal, and College Works Painting also has been recognized as an entrepreneurial leader by Ernst & Young, Entrepreneur, and other periodicals. Stewart is a past chairman of the global board for Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO).

to ask themselves, 'Will the internship offer real experience that will separate me from my peers?'"

- Treat your internship like a career. "The easiest way to treat your student job like a career is to ask your boss to mentor you," Stewart says. "Under the mentorship of your supervisor, you can expand your basic job functions."
- Be proactive, take initiative. Going above and beyond in your internship will set the foundation for your career. "You'll gain confidence by taking initiative, which is a core skill in the business world," Stewart says. "It's important to set goals and have a plan of action around those goals."

- Seek promotion opportunities. "Again, the mentor factor comes in," Stewart says. "Build a strong relationship with your mentor, and let him or her know you are eager for more responsibility and that you're up for the challenge. Always check the company job board."

"College is not the time to relax," Stewart says. "You need to treat college and an internship seriously; it's your future. College consists of three summers of internships, and by the fourth summer students should have what it takes to find a career."

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Read more at <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/confederates-surrender-fort-pulaski>.



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Time to get motivated

Find motivation so all you have to do finals week is take exams



JESS MOSER
Antelope Staff

We’ve all heard someone say something along the lines of “you’re almost done with classes for the year, why are you so stressed?”

While we’re all looking forward to that glorious three-and-a-half-month break when we can watch Netflix without feeling guilty, we still have to get through the next three weeks.

For some of us, those three weeks are a crucible of deadlines, stress and absolutely no motivation to do anything about it.

“My motivation has slowly gone downhill,” said Amber Trimble, a sophomore family studies major from Ft. Collins, Colorado. “Especially as assignments get harder, you just don’t want to put in the effort to do them.”

There is one important thing to remember during the end of the spring semester: find a system that works for you. What works for one person may not work for another.

“As weird as it sounds, I give myself snack breaks. So, if I study for so long then I get a break,” said Trimble. “Sometimes it’s the only way that I actually do study. Just small rewards as you go.”

Procrastination is not your friend at the end of a semester, so don’t leave all those pesky final papers and projects until dead week. Do a little work on them each day so you slowly chip away at them and aren’t left with a month’s worth of work the week before finals.

“My roommates and I set aside time every night where we sit in the living room and study,” said Trimble.

Get out your calendar and set some goals. They don’t have to be big goals. A 20-minute study session for one class every few days, a few hours on Saturday to work on that final paper or a few minutes to visit your professor and ask questions

on something you don’t understand.

Having a plan in place a few weeks before dead week can keep it all from crashing down on you right before finals, when all you should be worrying about is taking your finals. This way you know exactly what needs to be done, when it needs to be done and have a sense of how long it will take to do. Being organized can help keep from being overwhelmed. It also saves time in the long run, so don’t be afraid to schedule in that movie night.

UNK offers help in the form of the Learning Commons. If you’re having trouble with a paper or project, a visit to the Learning Commons may be just what you need. They’ll help you figure it out.

Motivation is something that works on the snowball effect; the more you get accomplished, the more motivated you become. Besides, every little step you take to completing an assignment gets you that much closer to being done.

Remember in between study dates and deadlines to take care of yourself. We all know the flu is still making its

“Sometimes it’s the only way that I actually do study. Just small rewards as you go.”
- Amber Trimble

rounds, and it’s the season for colds and allergies. Getting sick is not going to help your motivation.

Make sure you’re getting enough sleep. Sometimes those all-nighters look pretty

good. But, according to the National Sleep Foundation, a good night’s sleep helps solidify memories and retain information. Those all-nighters might be keeping you from remembering the answer to that essay question on an exam.

When you’re a college student with little money, a lot of stress and no time, eating healthy can be a challenge, especially during dead week and finals. Just remember to eat a vegetable now and then and not rely solely on hot pockets and coffee.

Don’t begrudge yourself a night out with friends. Time may be running out on the semester, but there is enough time to finish all your assignments, study for finals and still enjoy the friends you’ve made here at UNK. So, relax, breathe and stay motivated. You’ve got this.

SLLC celebrates 25 years, still strong

The English Department will host its annual Student Language and Literature Conference on Friday, April 13. The conference is free and open to the public. This will be the 25th anniversary of the conference.

The conference features many 60-minute themed panel sessions of both scholarly and creative work by English undergraduate and graduate students. Students will present criticism on literary works, read their original poetry, essays and short fiction. They will also engage in discussion with their fellow presenters and with the audience.


The conference will be all day and will take place in Thomas Hall. Sessions will begin at 9 a.m. An Awards Ceremony and Closing Reception will be held in the Thomas Hall Atrium from 3:30-4:30 p.m. A complete schedule of events will be

available in the Thomas Hall Atrium on the second floor of Thomas Hall.

Scholarly panels will include sessions titled “Challenging Conventions: Art, Love, and Fashion in Victorian Literature,” “The Dream and Nightmare Factory: Hollywood in Literature and Film,” and “Stirrings of Liberty and Visions of America.”

Creative writing panels will include sessions titled “Rants and Rage: Short Fiction,” “Fascinations - Observing Others: Short Fiction,” “Past Selves, New Selves: Short Fiction” and “Big Sky: Nebraska in Prose and Poetry.”

There will also be a special session on “Opportunities in the English Major,” in which upper class English majors join faculty members to discuss career and publishing opportunities for English majors.



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This week’s Twitter poll: What is your favorite ethnic food? Cast your vote on @theantelope and let us know what we are missing out on!



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feature/jump

Janicek brings friendly face to student gov

This student senator came to campus planning to get involved

HALEY PIERCE
JMC 315

Friendly. It’s the one word Taylor Janicek uses to describe himself. The newly elected vice president of the student body served student government as Senator for the College of Natural and Social Sciences.



Janicek, a junior psychology major from Bridgeport, was serving his second term on the Student Senate when elected. “UNK has provided me so many great opportunities and leadership experiences, and I couldn’t picture myself at any other university,” he wrote on the campaign page. Janicek’s involvement ranges from fraternity life to service organizations. He smiles a lot. He talks to strangers. He’s involved with the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, Interfraternity Council, Men’s Project and Order of Omega and is a resident assistant and FIRST Leader “A lot of people have a good relationship with him. He does a lot working with other people. He’s open and someone people can feel comfortable with,” student government advisor Tim Danube said.

CAMILLA from page 1

hard work had finally paid off. A prestigious organization on campus recognized her hard work and gave out one scholarship to Camila to pay for all of her tuition. She finally caught a break and is no stranger to hard work. In 2012, former President Barack Obama and his cabinet created the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA. It was a blessing in disguise because DACA gave those children who were brought over at a young age a two-year permit to protect them from deportation. Camila and her family jumped on it instantly. In 2017, President Donald Trump and his cabinet disagreed with former president and deemed Obama’s actions as an “abuse of his executive authority,” in creating DACA. In September 2017, the Trump administration began phasing out the policy little by little. It was announced the administration wants to create a new policy in place of DACA when it was set to end on March 5, but Congress gave a two-week extension due to inadequate progress with the situation. Camila responded to this information of DACA ending in March as well as Obama’s executive action by saying, “My question to those who are against it would be, ‘How would it be a misuse?’ DACA is helping millions of people, the economy, employment rate, education, and more are all benefiting. Seriously, look at the facts! This isn’t ‘fake news.’” “On top of all that,” Camila goes on to say, “DACA recipients get background checks every two years to make sure we aren’t criminals. Just a misdemeanor for speeding could be on record and would be worse for us. If this was a gross misuse, what about President George W. Bush and

Janicek’s work in student government often involves working with student organizations. He also helps with adding members to student government who apply to a position rather than get elected. Becoming involved in organizations that support students has become a common theme for the future student affairs professional. Q: Why and how did you get involved in student government? A: Student government sounded interesting to me. I thought it would be an opportunity to help fellow students and make a difference. When I had a friend encourage me to apply, I did. Q: What is your favorite project to work on in student government? A: One of my favorite projects is meeting with one of the committees I’m on. We are approving organizations. They come in and show us their constitution, and we help them through the process. A lot of different organizations come in all the time, and I didn’t even know we had them, so it’s been really insightful for me to see all the organizations students can get involved in.

Fast Facts	
Major	- Psychology
Minor	- Rec management
Hometown	- Bridgeport
Class	- Junior
Position	- Senator

his action before Congress officially voted to send troops to Iraq to find ‘weapons of mass destruction?’ The official number for those under DACA was registered at 690,000 in recent polls. But current White House Chief of Staff John Kelly said that number is greater. In total, he feels there are 1.8 million DACA recipients and to those that didn’t register, quote didn’t take enough personal responsibility. “The difference between 690 and 1.8 million were the people that some would say were too afraid to sign up, and others would say were too lazy to get off their asses, but they didn’t sign up,” Kelly said. Camila’s response: “He should’ve left it at ‘afraid.’ Too lazy? I know when DACA first came out, we jumped on top of it, but at the same time, we knew hundreds that waited to actually apply for it because we wanted to make sure it was safe in every aspect. Plus, we needed to hire a lawyer for thousands to help us fill out the information correctly or we would be in trouble and it was still cheaper and faster than going through full citizenship. It’s hard for those that have been safe their whole lives to understand. It’s the sad truth.” Where does this quote end? With the future currently up in the air after DACA ended on March 5 and no plan in place to take DACA’s place, she said, “Every two years we have had to renew. It was a great pathway, but that’s one thing the Republicans are correct in needing a bill in place for something more than just what DACA offers.” Camila said, “The average American can’t pass the citizenship test as it is. It is too time-consuming. “One mistake in those documents could mean everything you’ve worked for ends. My home is the United States. My parents brought me here and I obviously didn’t have a choice. What would I be sent back to?”

BURD from page 1

balance everything, and I had to give up a lot of my weeknight and weekend free time for my studies. Q: What clubs or extracurricular activities are you involved in? A: I kept pretty busy with school and work, but I was a member of the UNK Honors Program. I joined a few other organizations as well, such as Kappa Delta Pi (Honors Society for Educators) and SEAN (Student Educators Association of Nebraska). Q: What advice would you give to future seniors? A: I would say be sure to find some time for fun. The time really flies, and I cherish the fun memories most when I

Q: If you were the chancellor for a day, what would you do? A: I would give all my friends these special parking passes that let you park wherever you want on campus. People would come up to me wanting a parking pass, and I’d say “here you go.” Q: What brought you to UNK?

“ I thought it would be an opportunity to help students and make a difference. ”

-Taylor Janicek

A: There were a lot of factors. My parents went to UNK. The distance from home was a good factor. The affordability, and ultimately the size of UNK. I have close friends, but I’m also meeting new people. Q: Why are you interested in psychology? What career goals do you have? A: I want to go on to get my master’s in student affairs, and I think psychology will be a good segue to that career. I’d ultimately like to work advising fraternity and sorority life because I think it would be interesting. Q: What is your favorite organization (outside of student government)? A: Outside of student government, my favorite organization would be my fraternity, Phi Delta Theta. It’s really helped me get involved and shaped me into who I am. Q: Who has been a great role model for you?

A: As an incoming freshman, my greatest role model ended up being my roommate. I moved right into the fraternity house, so he was older. Landon Killion was involved in a lot of different things I wanted to do, so I sort of emulated him in a way. He really helped me get involved and find my path. Q: If you were the president of the United States for a day, what would you do? A: I would try to travel while I was in office. Or at least, I’d get trips lined up in my one day for an entire year. I would go somewhere tropical at first, or even the coast. Then after that, I’d go to Europe for a couple of months. I feel there is so much to see there. Q: Tell us a story about yourself. A: I left my window open during the giant snow storm because I was super hot, so I opened it that night, and my window was iced in. There was ice and snow on my bed the next morning. There was snow on my picture frames and the windowsill, so I had snow all over my room. It was really unfortunate. I woke up at 8 a.m. and couldn’t figure out why I was so cold until I realized there was snow and ice everywhere. Q: How do you clean up a mess like that? A: I went and got my ice scraper from my car because it froze in the corner, so I had to get hot water and spray it, then everything was wet. It was a big ordeal.

spend the time, or money to follow our country’s laws when coming to our state.” He goes on to write, “While I certainly sympathize with some of the difficult situations, Nebraska cannot become a state that uses the ends to justify the means.” Governor Ricketts goes on to use examples of two legal immigrants that went through the process of becoming citizens in the country and in Nebraska. The two citizens voted against DACA and LB947. It was their two stories that prompted Ricketts to use them as examples as to why he wants to phase out DACA and LB947. From a law standpoint, Ricketts feels that DACA and LB947 would destroy the set laws in place of this country and lead to more “unjust actions.” He says, “Second, just a few weeks ago the Supreme Court heard a case, which the State of Nebraska is litigating, against the Obama Administration, which could potentially give more individuals, who came to Nebraska illegally, access to professional license.” Governor Ricketts at the time never specifically stated what that court case was or what the plan was either. Governor Ricketts writes, “While I am sympathetic to the youth brought here illegally, the parents who crossed the border clearly broke the law. If the Supreme Court rules the President can go forward, this truly is amnesty.” Ricketts has not publicly mentioned anything recently on DACA since the government shut down early in 2018. His stance on the issue is about the process of laws and whether or not something is an abuse of power. He is taking a different approach to DACA and its extension LB947 as a process standpoint while those affected by the DACA ending are looking from a moral standpoint.

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Hart’s involvement sets up bright future

Senior Spotlight: Alex Hart looks forward to potential career in sports field

EVAN JONES
Antelope Staff

Alex Hart, a senior at UNK, has his eyes set on graduating in the coming weeks. Hart, a Lynch native and a sports management major, reflects on his time here. “I chose UNK because of the size. I come from a small town, so I knew it would be a good fit for me. Not just the size of Kearney, but the size of UNK. Both played major factors in my decision,” said Hart. During Hart’s time here at the University, he has been very involved. “Coming here, I saw a lot of opportunities to be involved. My freshman year, I was a member of the speech team, I helped with the football team and I also worked with the admissions office as a student diplomat. This semester, I have worked in the athletics department as an intern. I am doing



Courtesy
Alex Hart, set to graduate in May, is a sports management major here at UNK. He has been very active in his time at the university and looks to work in sports in the future.

promotions, gameday operations and a lot of those behind-the-scenes things. I was also involved in my fraternity here on campus, Sigma Tau Gamma, and served as president for little over a year. Now I’m just an active member trying to get things restarted and reestablished here on campus.” Looking back, Hart has some memories at UNK that will stick with him. “Some of

my best memories come from my different experiences and involvements. Working as a student equipment manager for the football team for four years was great — not a glamorous job at times but being able to travel with the team and see some of their exciting wins and games was really cool. Being a student diplomat and working for the admissions office, having the time to see some of the students come on their first campus visit and then see some of those kids come back for new student enrollment—that’s been a really cool experience for me,” said Hart. Hart is a member of the Thompson Scholar Learning Community, and early on in his college career that helped him in a number of ways. “First and foremost, it’s a good scholarship. Financially, it helps. In addition to that, the Learning Community here at UNK really supports the students. You’re assigned a peer mentor who’s an upper-classman student that has done everything in the Thompson Scholars,” said Hart. He served as a mentor in the school year of 2015-2016. As for Hart’s future, he has thought about graduate school. “The biggest program I have been looking at is UNL,

particularly their MAIAA program with Intercollegiate Athletics. I’ve looked at that program pretty seriously.” Right after graduation, Hart will begin a new job with the fraternity he was a member of in his time at UNK. “I just recently accepted a job with Sigma Tau Gamma national headquarters in Indianapolis. So, I will be working for my fraternity as a recruitment and growth coordinator. I will be traveling the country helping set up new expansions, coaching current chapters and helping with those things from the headquarters.” Even with this opportunity with the fraternity he loves, Hart hopes to be back in athletics at some point in his career. “Short term, I’d like to get back into athletics, whether it be operations, gameday management or those types of things. Long term, I’d like to work in sports administration.” Hart does have some good advice for students currently at UNK and for future students as well. “The biggest thing is to get involved. Find the things you’re passionate about. You’re going to enjoy it and learn a lot.”

Track team captains continue tradition of strong leadership

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MACHOL CHOL
Antelope Staff

The UNK track program, like many others, rewards leadership both on the track and in the classroom. Traits such as responsibility, punctuality and caring are skills that coaches look for outside of physical ability. Coaches will often give these students athletes the honor of being a team captain, and the same is true for the UNK track and field team. During the beginning of every new season, the track and field coaches get together and pick the captains for the upcoming season. Typically, one athlete from each event is chosen. Vertical jump coaches Brady Bonsall and Lonny Pollack, assistant coach for throws Dane Tobey and assistant coach for sprints Quinton Harley all put their heads together to decide who should lead the Loper team throughout the season. There are several factors that go into making these decisions, but the most prominent is most likely leadership skills. For the 2018 outdoor season, the following student athletes have been chosen to brandish the blue capital C on their jersey, signifying the responsibilities entrusted to them by their respective coaches.

Track Invite moved up to begin today

The Nebraska-Kearney Loper Invitational scheduled for this weekend has been moved up due to expected inclement weather in the area. The meet, held at Kearney High School, was supposed to take place Friday evening and all day Saturday. Now, the meet will begin Wednesday night and run through Thursday. The 5,000 meter run (women followed by men) will go off Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with the 10,000 (women followed by men) starting around 8:30 p.m. On Thursday, throws begin at 11 a.m. with field and running events starting at 3:30 p.m. The meet should wrap up around 8 p.m. UNK has two more outdoor meets this spring at KHS; the MIAA Outdoor Championships (May 4-6) and the Loper Last Chance (May 13).



CODY WIRTH

Cody Wirth, a senior exercise science major, is a distance runner who has had a spectacular career so far and hopes to finish strong this year. Wirth had a tough mid-season injury that he looks to bounce back from this outdoor season. He is a native of Kearney and continues to make his home city proud as he enters his senior outdoor season.



EMILY EVERETT

Emily Everett is a senior biology major who hails from O’Neill. She first made her collegiate debut at University of Nebraska at Omaha and has since made a name for herself as a Loper, with a national appearance effort in the high jump her junior year with a jump of 5-5.75. Everett looks to repeat her appearance as she prepares for the outdoor season.



FRANCES NOELDER

BA native of Fort Collins, Colorado, and a senior athletic training major, Frankie Noelder is a long and triple jumper who has had a strong athletic career. As she continues on to her senior years, Noelder, who displayed a knack for leadership early in her career, was named team captain as a sophomore., She hopes to keep up the trend of excellence that she has displayed through her actions and words as the Lopers dive into the 2018 outdoor season.



BAILEY STAPLEMAN

Bailey Stapleman is a senior on the men’s track and field team, and he hails from Fairfield., Stapleman is an exercise science major and a pole vaulter on the UNK track and field team. He closed his indoor track season on a strong note, competing in his second nationals meets in two seasons. Stapleman went to Pitt, Missouri, for nationals as a Loper and returned an all-American.

Weekend storms put softball team on road a few days early

The weekend schedule for the Nebraska-Kearney softball team has changed as road double headers at Northwest Missouri State and Missouri Western State have been moved up two full days. Instead of playing Saturday and Sunday, UNK will now travel to Northwest on Thursday and Mo West on Friday. The Lopers will face the Bearcats (20-12, 11-5) at 2 and 4 p.m. and the Griffons (19-22, 10-6) at 4 and 6 p.m. UNK (13-24, 9-11) is currently in eighth place in the MIAA standings. The top eight teams at the end of the regular season make the league tour-

namment. The Lopers close out the MIAA schedule next Sunday, April 22, with a home double header vs. Fort Hays State (11-31, 7-13).

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE ANTELOPE:


Go on the road with the Lady Lopers as Molly Stern reports back with her insider scoop on the upcoming tourney at Northwest Missouri State.



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Alyssa Hartman	Bailey Reigle	Skyler Zalman

Student Helper: Hanna Hake



Kropp reminisces on glory days

EVAN JONES
Antelope Staff

One of the athlete-coaching greats here at UNK is Tom Kropp, currently, a professor in the kinesiology department at UNK.

Hailing from Aurora, Kropp came to UNK to be a multi-sport athlete on both the court and the field. Kropp played football and basketball for the Lopers from 1971-1975, following an illustrious high school career.

Following his time as a Loper, Kropp was drafted in the third round of the NBA draft by the Washington Bullets and the Denver Nuggets of the ABA. Also, he was drafted by the Pittsburg Steelers of the NFL, but he chose the NBA.

Following the 1976 season, he played for the Chicago Bulls before his NBA career ended and he took his talents to Europe.

Following his time playing basketball overseas, Kropp returned to Kearney to coach the Lopers for 39 years, 25 of those as head coach, compiling a record of 482-245.

Kropp says he began playing at a very young age, and that was because of his parents. “I grew up in a family in which my parents were both involved in education, and my father was a basketball coach,” Kropp said. “When I was 5, 6, 7 years old, I was always at the basketball practices. For as long as I could remember, I was in the gym, and that was because my dad was the head basketball coach.”

When Kropp was drafted into the NBA and played for the Washington Bullets, there were some leaders he played with that really impressed him. “Two of the greatest players to play the game were on that team. One was Wes Unseld. I played an entire season with Wes, and



Courtesy
Left: Former coach, Tom Kropp, alongside the now head coach, Kevin Lofton. Kropp coached the Lopers for 39 years, and finished with an overall record of 482-245.

Right: Kropp gives some coaching advice to a player during a game. Tom Kropp was a former player for the Lopers from 1971-1975, while previously having a phemonenal high school career at Aurora. Kropp then went on to play in the NBA, with the Washington Bullets as well as the Chicago Bulls.

other than Wilt Chamberlin, Wes Unseld is the only other player that was the Most Valuable Player as a rookie,” Kropp said. He also mentioned Elvin Hayes, who has career averages of 21 points per game and 12.5 rebounds per game.

In Kropp’s stint with the Bulls, other talented players wowed him. “After I got traded to the Chicago Bulls, we had a couple of guards, which I backed up, by the name of Jerry Sloan, who I believe coached 22 years for the Utah Jazz, and the other guard was named Norm Van Lier.”

After his time in the NBA, Kropp played professionally in Belgium, and he loved it. “I loved the country of Belgium. To show how much I loved it,

I got married there. I played four years in Belgium, and the last three years I was there I dated a girl. We’ve now been married for 34 years. Belgium was a great country to play in,” said Kropp.

Talking about basketball today, Kropp offered his thoughts on the one-and-done rule in college basketball. This means that players out of high school go to college for one season, and then pursue a pro career in the NBA. “I don’t really have a strong opinion on that. But, I do know that when I played in NBA I would go out to Washington, and I would play in summer leagues. A lot of times, the summer leagues would be in the ghetto. So, you would have guys that never really went to school but would be 17 or 18 years old,



and they were good enough to play in the NBA.”

In today’s generation, LeBron James is the most dominant player in the NBA. For Kropp, a player that was like that had great tools and dominated as well. “The thing I think back to was that we had just played the Los Angeles Lakers, and we were coming back to the hotel. I had a close friend on the Washington Bullets, and his name was Clem Haskins. Clem was a great NBA player, and he also went on to coach Minnesota to the NCAA final four many years ago. But I remember sitting there on the bus, and we had just lost pretty badly to the Lakers. Clem was very wise with basketball. He said, ‘You know Tom, you just saw a player that is the best player to have ever played in the NBA. Tom, this guy is so good; for the next 30 years, he will be considered the best player that has ever played the game of basketball.’ That man’s name was Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.”

Chasing America’s pastime

Senior Andrew Riddell of Australia talks Loper baseball

Welcome to the print edition of Through the Eyes with your host Machol Chol. This week, I’m joined by Andrew Riddell, a senior pitcher on the University of Nebraska at Kearney baseball team. Andrew is a sports management major with a minor in coaching.

Originally hailing from Australia, Riddell followed an atypical path to UNK. Riddell, whose father also played baseball, was 14 when he experienced the game for the first time.

“My dad played baseball and signed me up.” It is safe to say that Riddell enjoyed baseball from that point, as he went on to try out for and make the state team while in Australia. During this time, Riddell and his team won a national championship, which sparked a desire for him to continue the game. “I sent out 200 emails, telling coaches who I was and my accomplishments,” Riddell said.

Riddell’s first experience with baseball in the United States was at a junior college in Dodge City, Kansas. Riddell mentioned the cultural differences he first noticed when he landed in Midwestern America: the first of which was the size difference.

Through the Eyes with Machol Chol

“I am from a city of 7 million people and was 30 minutes away from a beach, and all of the sudden I’m in the middle of America in a small town of 30,000.”

After playing in Dodge City, Riddell decided to continue his baseball career at University of Nebraska at Kearney. When asked why he picked Nebraska, he said that UNK sparked his interest during a visit to the school. Riddell, who during his time at Dodge was an education major, said that the education faculty played a role in his wanting to attend that school -that and an impressive coaching staff, including head coach Damon Day, who Riddell, along with the Kearney community, admires. “Everyone in the community knows Coach Day; he runs a first-class baseball program.”

Riddell, who is now a senior, is looking to graduate in May, also discussed the status of the team and how player and

coach alike are being impacted by the recent bid to eliminate the baseball team as a result of budget cuts.

“I think with our baseball team, with everything that has happened in the spring so far, it has all brought us together.”

The cut to the baseball team has changed the plans of coaches, players and fans alike, for many of the young men on the team who still want to play baseball are now, on a weekly basis, talking to and being recruited by teams around the conferences and regions, which creates a slight conflict of interest. “We’re still trying to win games.”

However, there is a small light at the end of the tunnel: young players are being watched by other teams, which means they’re essentially playing to find other spots around the area. Riddell counts himself as one of the lucky ones.

“I graduate this year, and it’s my last year of eligibility,” he said. Riddell fortunately will not have to undergo the process of finding a new baseball team to be a part of next year but feels for those young athletes who may possibly have to



RIDDELL

find new homes in order to play the sport they love.

After graduation, Riddell plans on earning his master’s degree, and he hopes to find a graduate assistant coaching position at the school. Riddell left us with the following words of advice:

“Come out and support UNK; we’re trying to put UNK baseball in a good light before it’s gone forever.”

Lopers to watch

with Justin James



Welcome back to Lopers To Watch. This week on the show we have football head coach of the University of Nebraska at Kearney team, Coach Josh Lynn.

We will be discussing the plans for the Loper football team for the spring season and touch base with a few players.



Coach Josh Lynn

Video @UNKANTELOPE.COM

Bearcats make quick work of Lopers



Photos by Robynn Milewski
Left: Pepe Balado, a junior business administration and finance major from Castellon, Spain, gets ready to serve the ball. He played a doubles match with Sri Aakash Reddiyar, a freshman undecided major from Malaysia Reddiya.



Above: Amanda Alvarez, a senior business administration and marketing major from Madrid, Spain, and Zhanel Turarbek, a freshman undecided major from Kazakhstan, play doubles during Saturday’s match.